



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/797,601 Confirmation No. : 3898
First Named Inventor : Jukka SCHAEERLUND
Filed : March 11, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1724
Examiner : R. Hopkins

Docket No. : 037141.53292US
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Air Filter

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply is accompanied by a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for one-month extension of time and by a credit card authorization in the amount of \$120 in payment of the required extension of time fee.

Responsive to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2006 in the above-identified patent application, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The rejection of claims 1-6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kott et al. (US 5,211,846) and the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kott et al. are each respectfully traversed.

Kott et al. fails to disclose or suggest the feature of claim 1 of a concentric, radially-acting, resilient gasket. The Office Action asserts that element 34 of Kott et al. corresponds to the claimed gasket. Applicants respectfully disagree. As disclosed in Kott et al.,

[T]he sealing end cap 18 also seals the core assembly to the filter cartridge element. For this purpose, a seal 34 may be used between the sealing end cap inner surface 28 and the outer surface 32 of the filter cartridge second end cap 10. The seal 34 has an inner